**SEPP17.001AUS** 



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**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	NIINISTÖ et al.	Group Art Unit: 1762
Appl. No.	:	10/067,634	)
Filed	:	February 4, 2002	)
For	:	METHOD OF DEPOSITING RARE EARTH OXIDE THIN FILMS	COPY OF PAPERS  ORIGINALLY FILED
Evaminer	•	Linknown	

## SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

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TC 1700

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

## In the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, following the title:

The present application claims priority to Japanese patent application number 2001-236874, filed August 3, 2001.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-14 and add the following new claims:

15. (New) An atomic layer deposition (ALD) process for depositing rare earth metal oxide thin films on a substrate in a reaction space, comprising the steps of:

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